

CHAPTER 257

(Senate Bill 461)

AN ACT to add new Section 15A to Article 78 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition), title "Public Service Commission Law", sub-title "Public Service Commission", sub-heading "People's Counsel", to follow immediately after Section 15 thereof; and to add new Section 9A to Article 64B of the said Code, (1962 Supplement), title "Metropolitan Transit Authority", to follow immediately after Section 9 thereof; to provide certain additional powers and duties for the People's Counsel to the Public Service Commission with respect to mass transportation companies.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland, That new Section 15A be and it is hereby added to Article 78 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1957 Edition), title "Public Service Commission Law", sub-title "Public Service Commission", sub-heading "People's Counsel", to follow immediately after Section 15 thereof and to read as follows:*

15A. In addition to the powers and duties specified herein, the People's Counsel shall also have the powers and duties set forth in Section 9A of Article 64B of this Code.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted, That new Section 9A be and it is hereby added to Article 64B of the said Code, (1962 Supplement), title "Metropolitan Transit Authority", to follow immediately after Section 9 thereof and to read as follows:*

9A. (a) In addition to his powers and duties contained elsewhere in this Code, the People's Counsel to the Public Service Commission shall have the following powers:

(b) He shall appear before the Metropolitan Transit Authority and the courts in behalf of the interests of the public in general in any matter or proceeding, of which the authority has original jurisdiction and in which he may deem the public interest to be involved, including but not limited to proceedings with regard to rates, service, or practices of any public transportation company subject to the jurisdiction of the authority, or any violation of the provisions of this article. He shall have, in such appearance, all the rights of counsel for a party in interest, including but not limited to the right to present his case, to cross examine witnesses, to object, to be heard, and to appeal.

(c) He shall make such investigations as he may deem necessary to the intelligent performance of the duties imposed by sub-section (b) above.

(d) He shall have full access to the authority's records, shall be entitled to call upon the assistance of its experts, and shall have the benefit of all other facilities or information of the authority in carrying out his duties.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 1963.*

Approved April 17, 1963.